

SAINT SIMEON THE STYLITE, THE ELDER

Saint Simeon the Stylite was born in the Cappadocian village of Sisan to Christian parents, Sisotian and Martha. At thirteen years of age, he began to tend his father's flock of sheep. He devoted himself attentively and with love to this, his first obedience.

Once, after he heard the Beatitudes in church, he was struck by their profundity. Not trusting to his own immature judgment, he turned to an experienced Elder, who readily explained to the boy what he had heard. This strengthened his resolve to serve God. At eighteen, Simeon received monastic tonsure and devoted himself to strictest abstinence and unceasing prayer. His zeal, beyond the strength of the other brethren, so alarmed the igumen that he told Simeon to either moderate his ascetic deeds or leave the monastery.

St. Simeon withdrew from the monastery and lived in an empty well in the nearby mountains, where he was able to carry out his austere struggles unhindered. He later settled into a stony cave near the village of Galanissa. With the help of God, he spent the entire 40 days of Great Lent without food or drink. He prayed 20 days while standing and 20 days while sitting. People began to throng to the place of his monastic feats, wanting to receive healing from sickness and to hear words of Christianity. Shunning worldly glory and striving again to find his lost solitude, the monk chose a previously unknown mode of asceticism—he went up a pillar 6 feet high and settled upon it in a little cell, devoting himself to intense prayer and fasting.

He endured many temptations but invariably gained victory over them by relying not on his own weak powers but on God, Who always came to help him. St. Simeon gradually increased the height of the pillar on which he stood; his final pillar was 80 feet tall. Around him a double wall was raised to hinder the unruly crowd from coming too close and disturbing his prayers.

St. Simeon spent 80 years in arduous monastic feats, 47 years of which he stood upon the pillar. Many pagans accepted Baptism, struck by his moral staunchness and bodily strength.

When the saint did not appear to the people for 3 days, his disciple Anthony went up on the pillar and found St. Simeon's dead body stooped over at prayer. Patriarch Martyrius of Antioch performed the funeral, and St. Simeon was buried near his pillar.

www.oca.org



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THE TRINITARIAN

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Divine Liturgy on Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Vespers on Saturdays at 5:00 p.m.

BULLETIN 44 - VOLUME LXI

TONE 1

SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST **Church New Year**

*St. Simeon the Stylite and his mother, Ven. Martha; Martyr Aithlals of Persia;
Holy 40 Women Martyrs and Martyr Ammon the Deacon;
Martyrs Callista and her brothers, Evodius and Hermogenes, at Nicomedia;
Righteous Joshua the Son of Nun;
Synaxis of the icon of the Mother of God at Miasenes*

O Creator of the universe, You didst appoint times by Your power; bless the crown of this year with Your goodness, O Lord. Preserve in safety Your rulers and cities; and through the intercessions of the Theotokos, save us!

Troparion, Tone II

You were a pillar of patient endurance, having imitated the forefathers, O Venerable One: Job in suffering, and Joseph in temptations. You lived like the bodiless ones while yet in the flesh, O Simeon, our Father. Beseech Christ God that our souls may be saved.

Troparion, Tone I

TODAY'S EPISTLE: I TIMOTHY 2:1-7
I CORINTHIANS 4:9-16

TODAY'S GOSPEL: LUKE 4:16-22
MATTHEW 7:14-23

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Saturday, September 7 5:00 p.m. Vigil of the Nativity of the Theotokos

WELCOME GUESTS!

We are very glad you have come to worship the Holy Trinity with us this morning! Please participate in the services at your comfort level. Our greeters will kindly assist you with whatever questions or needs you may have. During each Sunday service we offer Holy Communion. If you are a practicing Orthodox Christian and have come prepared to receive Christ's Body and Blood through fasting and prayer, please come forward to partake. All guests are invited to come forward at the end of the service to greet Fr. Christopher and receive the blessed bread. Please stay after the Divine Liturgy for coffee hour in the Fellowship Hall so we can get to know you better!

Families with children: we encourage children of all ages to be present and participate as they are able during worship. We know sometimes kids need a break, so please take good advantage of our Rest and Refocus Room located on the south side of the lobby/narthex when coming in the main entrance. If you have pre-school and school age children, we invite you to send them to Church School directly after the Divine Liturgy throughout the academic year. May God bless you!

Daily Scripture Readings can be found in the St. Tikhon's Wall Calendar or at www.oca.org/readings.

COMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER:

- 8, Sunday First Day of Church School classes
Food Sale
- 15, Sunday 11:15 a.m. Special Parish Meeting
3:00 p.m. Pan-Orthodox Concert to benefit St. Theodosius Restoration Fund
- 17, Tuesday 6:30 p.m. 14th Annual Fr. Prislowsky Memorial Dinner Lecture, "The Road to Nicea"
- 20-22 Retreat at St. Matthew Church: "Godly Marriage and Virginitiy"
- 22, Sunday 11:15 a.m. Parish Council meeting

CHURCH SCHOOL:

The new academic year will start next Sunday! Please contact Fr. Chris if you are interested in being a part of the program - as a teacher or as a substitute.

"A SONG OF VICTORY"

The Pan-Orthodox Choir of the Greater Cleveland area churches will be having a concert and selling CD's to raise funds for St. Theodosius Cathedral, which recently experienced a fire. The concert is Sunday, Sept. 15, 3:00 p.m., here at Holy Trinity. The concert is open to the public, and free-will donations will go directly to the Restoration Fund. CD's will be available for sale at \$20.

FOOD SALE:

Our Second Sunday Food Sale will be September 8. Please plan to cook or bake and donate your specialties!

SAVE THE DATE:

On November 3, 2024, we are holding our annual Meatloaf Luncheon at Holy Trinity to benefit the meals we sponsor at St. Herman's House. Details for the meal will be coming soon. We are again including the popular Basket Raffle. If you'd like to create a basket, contact Dianna Kall at 216-741-2888; OR you can offer gift cards (any store, any amount) or any new merchandise.

TRINITARIAN COVERS:

The covers today are offered by Frank and Joanne Stoyka in celebration of their 17th Anniversary.

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES:

We are preparing our new list to send out care packages to our college students. We would certainly like to include all HTOC students! Please send Valerie Spoerl your children or grandchildren's new college addresses. valspoerl@gmail.com

DINNER LECTURE:

The 14th Annual Fr. Prislowsky Memorial Dinner Lecture is Tuesday, Sept. 17, at Woodside Party Center. Please see the attached flier for complete information.

VETERANS MONUMENT:

Donations continue to be accepted toward the granite memorial to be placed in our Prayer Garden for HTOC veterans. Write checks to Holy Trinity Orthodox Church and designate for "Veterans' Memorial." See info in the Fellowship Hall, or contact Frank Stoyka, 216-401-8938.

WEEKEND RETREAT:

See details on the bulletin board of a retreat at St. Matthew Church on Sept. 20-22. Fr. Josiah Trenham, Ph.D., will address "Godly Marriage and Virginitiy: Paths to Holiness."

COFFEE HOUR:

Our refreshments today are provided by the Stoyka Family.

Donors are needed for Sept. 8, 15, and 22. Feel free to gather a group together to share the responsibility.

CHURCH NEW YEAR

According to Holy Tradition Christ entered the synagogue on September 1 to announce His mission to mankind (Luke 4:16-22). Quoting Isaiah 61:1-2, the Savior proclaimed, "The spirit of the Lord is upon Me; because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to proclaim release to captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord..."

THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

REGULAR COLLECTION, 8/25/2024	\$ 2033.00
CAPITAL CAMPAIGNS	687.00
CANDLES	145.00
COFFEE HOUR, 8/18/24	95.00



Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

A parish of the Diocese of the Midwest
Orthodox Church in America



Special Parish Meeting

September 15, 2024

AGENDA

1. Opening Prayer
2. Determination of a Quorum
3. Purpose of Meeting: Proposal to change the by-laws to reduce the number of required parish council members from 12 to 7. (Explanation and detail on reverse side.)
4. Discussion
5. Vote/Resolutions
6. Adjournment
7. Closing Prayer



Proposal

Current Parish By-laws state in Article V, Section 1.a.: “The Parish Council shall be composed of the Rector, ex officio, and twelve (12) elected members.”

Proposal to change Article V, Section 1.a., to state “The Parish Council shall be composed of the Rector, ex officio, and **seven (7)** elected members.”

Moving from 12 members to 7 members: Current parish council members will remain for their full term, and will have availability to be reelected for as many terms as the by-laws allow. Reduction to 7 members from 12 will happen by attrition over multiple years until the need for electing council members again arises in order to maintain 7 members.

This Special Meeting is being called before our annual meeting because the outcome of this meeting will determine whether new council members need to be elected at the annual meeting in October.

Notes on proposed change:

1. A reduction of council members would:
 - a. offer the potential for active council members to have a more open platform and space to voice their opinions/concerns,
 - b. align more closely with the current membership of our parish,
 - c. increase in the pool of eligible parish members to be elected to the council, and thereby
 - d. allow those parishioners who have served as parish council members increased opportunities to engage in parish life off the council
2. Parishioners will still have the ability to attend parish council meetings (as stated in our by-laws Article V, Section 7.g.) and to reach out to the priest and/or parish council members for items that they would like for the council to address.
3. In comparison with other OCA parishes, 12 parish council members appears to be higher than most.
 - a. For example, the OCA Diocese of the South (according to their uniform parish by-laws template) recommends 5, 7, or 9 members depending on the size and situation of its parishes.
 - b. Our Archbishop Daniel and our Vice Chancellor, Fr. Esteban Vasquez, have noted that our parish requirement of 12 council members is high and they support a reduction in number.

14th Annual

Fr. Prislopsky Memorial

Dinner Lecture

The Road to Nicea:

Factors Leading to the Convening of the
First Ecumenical Council in 325 A.D.

Keynote Speaker:

His Eminence, Archbishop Michael
Bishop of New York and New Jersey



Icon of First Ecumenical Council

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

ARCHANGEL MICHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH

Woodside Party Center

5025 E Mill Road

Broadview Hts., OH

Dinner at 6:30 PM

Lecture to Follow

Cost: \$15 per person

RSVP Required Through Church Office by

Friday, September 6

Call - (440) 526-5192 or

Email - info@stmichaelscleveland.org